

Remarks

Applicants traverse, because the Office mischaracterized European Patent Application EP 361 797 as satisfying the limitation “degradable”. EP 0361 797 describes a ceramic body comprising ferromagnetic ferrites particles dispersed in a matrix of an inorganic material, such as: phosphocalcium or a glass. This ceramic body of EP 361 797 has been prepared to overcome the drawbacks of known heat generating bodies, which comprise metallic substances. As indicated on page 3, lines 22-24 of EP 361 797, these substances are easily dissolved in living bodies fluids to liberate noxious metallic ions, so that they have low heat-generating efficiencies and are not suited to embedment in living bodies.

The ceramic body as disclosed in EP 361 797 has thus been developed to not dissolve metallic particles in living bodies. Consequently, this ceramic body is very stable as indicated in EP 361 797 on page 2, line 27: *"the present invention seeks to provide a ceramics body to be embedded in living tissues, which is innocuous and stable for a long period when embedded in living tissues "*.

To the contrary, the matrix of the material according to the present invention is very unstable. In fact, it has been developed to be resorbed within a period of a few days to a few weeks after its introduction in an organism. As mentioned in the present application, the magnetic particles, which are dispersed in the matrix will be released during its degradation. The released particles will then penetrate into the cells by endocytosis. Magnetic particles may be heated in an electromagnetic field before or after their endocytosis.

Thus, the very stable ceramic body disclosed in EP 361 797 is different from the very unstable composite material as claimed in Claim 1 of the present application. Moreover, the EP 0361 797 ceramic body is not appropriate for the applications of the composite material of the invention, since it does not allow the endocytosis of magnetic particles by cells.

Consequently, the ceramic body disclosed in EP 0361 797 does not anticipate the composite material according to the invention.

Therefore, the lack of unity rejection is groundless.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extension fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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